



A Call to Eyes and Ears That Open to Real Things

Ho-Kola:

To those who have learned the ways of Camp life and would meet together with others of their kind, who seek such things as shall enrich their lives as leaders in the out-of-doors, and learn the magic of the Camp fire, the twelve secrets of the woods, and the growth that comes of an eager spirit—

Come to the Camp at Conference Point-on-Lake Geneva, if you be an accepted older boy (16 to 22 years), for 13 days and a night, beginning at five-thirty on the evening of the 16th Sun of the Thunder Moon (July) and ending at the Rise of the 29th Sun thereof. If you be an older girl of tested age (16 to 22 years), come at five-thirty in the evening on the 30th Sun of the Thunder Moon (July) and leave at the Rise of the 11th Sun of the Harvest Moon (August).

We will furnish you with lodges, food, and firewood, but bring such things as ye would for your own care and comfort. As for the biggest things—in the learning of the woods, the ways of the spirit, the will to plan, to work, to serve in camp, at home, abroad—we give you these so far as in us lies.

Drones may not come, nor tarry!

Know then that learners are indeed welcome and kindly!

This invitation opens the Lodge flap to you, my comrade.

Nevertheless be not laggard for there be many on the trail.

KINJI-GISSIS,
Great Chief.

MAY, 1918

The International Sunday School Association

(Continued from April.)

V. THE ASSOCIATION'S CONTRIBUTION TO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

The Sunday School Lesson and Bible Study systems which have multiplied so amazingly through North America during the last twenty-five years are another outcome of Sunday School Association life. Previous to 1872, Sunday school lessons and lesson-making were chaotic and hopeless. The first system of lessons ever issued was published by the Chicago Sunday School Union (now the Cook County Sunday School Association) in 1866. Other attempts, ranging all the way from the suggestion of suitable Bible chapters to more or less intelligent attempts at Bible lesson helps, were made during this period. In 1872, the International Sunday School Association organized its Lesson Committee and the International Uniform Lessons were produced, resulting in the unifying of the Sunday school movement throughout the world. Much just and unjust criticism has lately been loosened on this first, real step to modern religious education, which is still very much in the making for practical usage. In these days of graded curricula, the old uniform lesson has served its main purpose but may still be of considerable use, until at least the Sunday school stragglers have caught up with the graded lesson procession. In 1908, the International Lesson Committee, under much conflicting advice, pressure and needless fear, issued its International Graded System, which even now is beginning to prove inadequate under the steady, growing demands of progressing religious education. Any fair-minded critic, even grudgingly disposed, must admit that the International Association's contribution in lesson-making to the Sunday school world is the foundation for educational progress in the school of the church of today. Since 1914, the International Sunday School Association has appointed only eight of the forty-two members of the International Lesson Committee.

The Teacher Training movement that has swept across the land began in the Illinois Sunday School Association in 1889, was made part of the International Sunday School Association program in 1903, and since then has been largely supervised by the denominations.

The organized Sunday school class

movements are the fruit of Sunday School Association endeavor. In 1907 the Adult Bible Class Department of the International Association was begun and in 1911 the Secondary organized class movement was started. The Sunday school associations are still the great promoters of these organized class movements, although the standards and programs are strictly denominational.

The Sunday school departments—Cradle Roll, Beginners, Primary, Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Young People, Adult, Home and Parent—all owe their existence to the initiative and promotive energy of the Sunday School Association.

Temperance education and sentiment, with their resulting wave of prohibition, are in great measure due to the International Uniform Quarterly Temperance Lessons, provided for in 1890 by the International Lesson Committee. An impetus was likewise given to purity and sex instruction through the action of the International Association in 1911, and missionary education in the Sunday school received life and impetus through the organization of an International Missionary Department in 1910.

Religious education in seminaries and colleges is also a direct result of the continuous call of the Sunday School Association for trained teachers and preachers along Sunday school lines. The recent vocation of Religious Educational Director in our church life is the fruit of this movement.

Evangelism has always been the keynote of the Sunday School Association, and Decision Day, Declaration Day and the Forward Step movement in the local Sunday school, as well as the concerted, extended evangelistic effort of the Easter month or other special times, are all products of association thinking.

Sunday school special days almost without number are due to Sunday School Association initiative. The need was recognized quickly and provision made for it through association machinery. The host of special day programs, as issued by Sunday school publishing houses, are mute witnesses to this fact.

The Sunday School Association's contribution to kindred organizations has also been considerable. In 1911 the International Sunday School Association was

(Continued on page 7.)

Conference Pointers

*Camp of the
4-Fold-Life*

Lake Breeze—
Hill Top Echoes

*Camp of the
100 Fires*

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JOHN L. ALEXANDER, *Editor*

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Vol. II

MAY, 1918

No. 8

At the Editor's Desk

It was the hope of the Editor that the May number of Conference Pointers might be a service number. With that in mind a letter was addressed to every camper since 1914, asking that report might be made if the camper happened to be in National service. The letter was labeled, "To be opened by nearest relative," with the hope that a speedy answer might be had. The replies have been slow, and Conference Pointers will postpone until the June number the proposed "Service Issue." The Editor asks three things of his readers and friends. First! Will you not report the name of any camper in the country's service in the Army, Navy, Y. M. C. A. War Work, Red Cross Service, Overseas, or other form of National service? Second! Send the latest information which you may have concerning these campers. Third! Do it now, so that the June issue may be worth while.

As we write, the plans for the Camp-Conferences are going ahead nicely. Next month will certainly contain a story of these plans. The Girls' Camp-Conference reached its limit weeks ago, and now the waiting list is being rapidly filled up. Every registration for the Girls' Camp, old or new, now goes on the waiting list. This will be the largest Camp-Conference, Conference Point has yet seen. Approximately one hundred and eighty have been registered for the Boys' Camp-Conference, and the Boys' Camp, with only twenty more registrations to complete the quota promises also to be a record-breaker. With only twenty to register, the fellow who expects to be at Conference Point next summer had better send in his application without delay. Delay means a place on the waiting list!

Since our last issue, several letters have arrived from France from Minisino. He is happy, busy, and working from dawn till dark. Did you send him any posters, pictures, or flags for the Y. M. C. A. huts? You'll find his address in the May number, and he will be glad to hear from you.

A new hymn book will be used at Conference Point in the Camp-Conferences this summer. It is a Boys' and Girls' Hymn Book, edited by John L. Alexander, R. A. Waite, Wm. H. Danforth, and J. R. Marcum. It is being published by the University Society, Inc., New York City, and is a great book.

With the development of the Conference Point property, the additions to the Tipi-Wakan and the Council Circle, more equipment is needed for the Camp-Conferences. With this in view, the Director of the Camps sent a letter to each camper asking a voluntary subscription to a fund for this purpose. Did you subscribe? The subscriptions to date are reported on the last page of this number.

The International Sunday School Association convention will be held in Buffalo during the days, June 19-25. This convention is held once in every four year's, and is the supreme Sunday school gathering of the world. The program is about a hundred pages long and every phase of Sunday school and Sunday School Association work is covered. Write to Marion Lawrence, General Secretary, 1516 Mallers Building, Chicago, Ill., for information!

The International Camp-Conferences as a Local Asset

By J. R. MARCUM, Esq.



"Geneva" is a magic word. To hundreds of older boys and older girls who there have "smelled wood smoke at twilight," the word has much the same meaning as the "Open Sesame" of the olden day. For it is "Geneva" which has opened to those same hundreds of older boys and girls the doors of vision, of training, and of opportunity.

To the average camper who goes for his first time to Conference Point as a member of the Older Boys' or Girls' Camp-Conference, there comes such a revelation of himself, and of his relationship to others, and of his relationship to the Father God, that he can never again be the same in his attitude towards life and its responsibilities and opportunities.

The camper has won a membership in the Camp because of his actual or potential capacity of leadership. Back home, he has been looked upon as an asset in his Sunday school, and he has been sent to the Camp-

Conference for the purpose of preparing for greater service back home. Therefore, every activity of the Camp is definitely planned to contribute to this training. Even the social, athletic, and recreational features of the Camp life show the camper how he can be a real leader in the social, athletic, and recreational life of the home community. These activities, as well as every other exercise of the Camp life, are intended as methods by which the boy can be discovered to himself and by which he can discover the Jesus Way of Living to others.

That the Camp-Conferences have been signally successful in their purpose cannot be gainsaid by any person familiar with the facts. In the four years since that little pioneer group set the standard, there has been more progress in the Sunday school life of America, so far as boys and girls are concerned, than in any twenty previous years. Wherever the Geneva-trained boy or girl has gone into the home Sunday school, there have come new life, and new purpose, and new determination. One needs only to travel through the states which have sent large delegations to the Camp-Conferences to discover that these older boys and girls are really doing great things for themselves and for their younger brothers and sisters, back in the home schools.

Sunday school work FOR older boys and girls was a failure. Sunday school work WITH older boys and girls was only a partial success. Sunday school work BY older boys and girls for themselves and for their juniors, with just such adult supervision and advice as the occasion demands, has already proved its worth. It is merely another application of the educational principle of "learning by doing." Physical growth does not come from listening to lectures upon physiology, anatomy, and hygiene. Spiritual growth does not come from listening to a thirty-minute lecture on the Sunday school lesson. The Sunday school will hold its boys and girls and will raise up competent leadership for the church of the future, only when it follows the lead of the best educational thought of the times and educates religiously its boys

and girls by giving them opportunity for and guidance in their own religious activities.

This is the significance of the International Older Boys' and Girls' Camp Conferences, and this is the genius of their work. The camper lives for two weeks in the atmosphere of what may be called "Applied Christianity." Religion is not talked about very much, but it is lived a great deal. The Four-Fold Life is actually demonstrated, "from early morn till dewy eve," and then on to bedtime. The teaching work of the morning, the organized playground and athletic work of the afternoon, the inspirational service at sundown, the social life of the evening all these definitely contribute to the training process of the Camps. When, at the end of the two weeks, the campers begin to take count of what they have done, and what they have become, and what they propose to do about it. their statements

always take one or both of two forms: first, a purpose to go back to the home school and there to go to work at their task of assisting in bringing in the Kingdom of God; second, a purpose to return to the Camp for the full three-year course offered there.

The Sunday school has the same problem that all other great movements have. Its problem is to discover, and develop, and train leadership. It must be self-perpetuating. Its leadership must come largely from within itself. The International Older Boys' and Older Girls' Camp-Conferences were raised up to assist in this process of discovering, developing, and training Sunday school leadership. That it is beginning to show the results of its activity, any person who has observed its work will agree. It deserves the support and the cooperation of YOUR Sunday school. YOU will profit by the association.

From Across the Seas

c-o H. Q., Y. M. C. A., France, B. E. F.
March 13, 1918.

My Dear Alex:

My, but time does fly. I will have been away from old Canada a year very soon; in fact, before you receive this letter.

Your letter, dated October 25, reached me, but not till Christmas, as you addressed it to Toronto. How many times I have been going to write to you, but it is hard to keep up correspondence, out here especially. We have a night and day job and when night work is over it is hard even to settle down to write my dear old wife once a week or so. However, Alex, how often I have thought of you and your tremendous tasks, also Alf. Waite. It is so good to know that he is definitely linked up with the Association. Stan. Raymore wrote and told me of his visit to Toronto at the Boys' Conference last fall.

Roy Belford was here to have tea with me a couple of weeks ago. He is General and has two blighty stripes (two wounds) but is fine and fit again. Jack Beaton is only a very few miles from me. I see him every other day or so. He is very well and right on the jump as usual.

This is a tremendous job, Alex. Of course it is practically settled down to regular work, but very mobile. We just follow or lead the Army; the latter often is the case, since we like to get set up and

meet them when they come in. That is the



case when they go from one area to another, sometimes for a special fight and again for rest. I have a comfortable billet in this quaint French town—it is the front room of what was an Estaminet (a saloon).

I was at one of the huts which I supervise today and they told me that a number of Yanks were attached to one of our units for special training. They were around the hut at that time.

Your work over there with the Army and including conservation work, etc., is a splendid piece of business. America certainly is doing her bit in good fashion. We will certainly need every ounce of the extra pressure. Fritz is very much alive yet over here, but we can give him more than he cares to have, and such will be the case even if it does take time. We have lots of Chinese working behind the lines. In one of their camps on their New Year's day two weeks ago one of our bands was playing, and my, but how they crowded around the slide trombone players after the concert. They jabbered away at a tremendous rate with keen interest. Upon investigation by the interpreter, it

was found that they thought the trombone players great magicians because of the way they swallowed the long part of the trombone. Every time they pushed it in they really thought that the band men really swallowed that part of the instrument.

A story is told of a fellow who was standing in a shallow trench last November. He had some live stock in the back of his neck. As he bent his head forward and tried to extricate his unwelcome guest, a shell took off his hat. Well, he looked behind him, then at the bug just caught, and said as he gazed upon its frowzy carcass: "You poor little devil, you saved my life. What can I do for you? I cannot give you the Military Medal, or the Military Cross, or V. C., but I can put you back again." So he stuck it in under his shirt once again with a *sense of gratitude*. Nuff said, Alex! Do write me a line occasionally. Every letter does mean so much out here. Give my regards to Burr, Plug, your wife and kiddies and all I may know, Father Lawrence and Daddy Pearce, and your twin. With kindest regards,

ED. D. OTTER.

Some Interesting Group Letters

Attention Grailers!

2639 E. 29th, Kansas City, Mo.

May 1, 1918.

Dear Grailer:

Do you realize that it will soon be Camp time again, and we shall be back there, this time as leaders? Conference Point has meant a surprising amount to you for three years, yet you little realize the joy that will be yours when you have accepted the responsibility of being a leader there. Maybe you think you know our Great Chief Kinji now. I doubt if you do until you have helped him carry through the whole Camp program. There is something which has to be put across up there besides the program of activities you know. Appreciating this something else—the vision you receive—there will be great pleasure in passing it on.

Shall we not go back with plans all laid for presenting to the Camp a visible and material token of our appreciation of what Camp has meant to us, through its fellowship, its vision given, and its good times?

We did not have time, after I accepted your invitation to become a member of your class, to plan for our gift. I spoke

to several of you of Kinji's desire for a Seat of Boulders to be put up there near the old stump on Hillside. The Hillside speakers would use it. It would be a pretty thing, crescent-like in shape, made of those great old boulders of many colors, and placed there on a spot that so many love and will come to love. The cost, as proposed, would probably be \$150.

Now, shall we have our Secretary write to Kinji and get definite bids on the proposition? Also ask him whether anything else has occurred to him recently which would be more acceptable? If you do not approve of this idea of a gift, say so. It is ours together. Speak of any difficulties you see in the plan. The new wings of the Tipi-Wakan are up. Perhaps there is something connected with fitting them up, which the other classes have not spoken for.

There is another idea—starting the Geneva Sunday School Library with a good fund, and ever afterwards adding to it certain volumes each year. It would be very appropriate to call it the "Grailers' Library," for we would have everything in it which would help girls and leaders to understand girls and girls' problems

better the world over, and books which would lead us on, as Waonspeakiye says, "Into the realm of the unknown as far as we can follow."

I'll act as the clearing house for all your views on the matter of our gift.

BONITA FERGUSON,
Mentor.

Ho, Patriots!

Dear Genevarite:

As Class Mentor for the Patriots, I have not been overburdened with duties, but have surely enjoyed the letters which have come from some of you, and have not only recalled the wonderful fellowship we had together, but have been remembering you individually in my prayers.

I am deeply concerned that our class, born in the first year of our entrance into the great struggle, may prove worthy of the trust which rests upon us. Now that the first flush of enthusiasm has passed, I am sure that each of us will consider his duty carefully.

I only want you to give proper consideration to your need for a more complete training in Kingdom service, in order that you may do your share to conserve those things which we hold dearest. Unless some other call is very definite, may I challenge you to come back to Conference Point this summer that you may be fully equipped?

I wonder if you would mind writing me whether or not you intend to go, and in the same mail, won't you send in your one dollar registration fee to Kinji?

I know the Great Chief is preparing big things for us, and I am just living for the moment when I can grab your hand there on the dock, and do my best to make the second year mean what it always means to a camper.

With best season's greetings, and many personal regards, I am,

Faithfully yours,
BURR BLACKBURN.

From France!

Dear Fellows of the Class of '17:

Class of '17!! Gee, but that sounds good to me, and means more than I can possibly put into words. It brings to my mind the memories of dear old Lake Geneva and Conference Point, and the pleasure and privilege of meeting you fellows and personally becoming acquainted with many of you.

As I write, I have a picture of you

fellows before me, and as I glance along the line and look into your faces, many pleasant recollections crowd themselves into my memory of things you did and associations I enjoyed with each and every one of you.

In the background is the "Piffle House" with which we associate so many pleasant recollections, and on its roof is the bell that called us for the dip, breakfast, classes, dinner, games, supper, hillside, council circle, and bed with its "lights out." Say, I can hear it now and it really makes me homesick to be back again in the same place, at the same time, and with you selfsame fellows.

Many of you fellows have written me personal letters, and I certainly have appreciated hearing from you. If I have not answered you as promptly as you perhaps expected, please excuse me and bear in mind that it takes time to answer them all. Write, fellows, write, and I'll answer every one of your letters even though it necessitates my getting a secretary to help me do it. My one earnest wish is to keep in personal touch with you throughout the year, so keep 'em comin'.

Your sincere friend and fellow-camper,
CARL BONNER,
President, Patriots, '17.

THE INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from page 2.)

one of the participating factors in the Men and Religion Forward movement and in 1886 the World's Sunday School Association was born in the brain of the Chairman of the International Association's Executive Committee, the first World's Convention being held in 1889 in London.

These by-products of International Sunday School Association activity merely point to and register the more easily measured service rendered in the past by the Sunday School Association and should not be confused with the present plan of work and program of the Association as dealt with in the next chapter of this romance of religious education. (To be continued.)

The office of Conference Pointers and, of course, the International Sunday School Association is now 1516 Mallers Building instead of 1416 as formerly. The change from the fourteenth to the fifteenth floor was made in order to secure more space for the enlarging work.

The Conference Point Camp-Conference Subscription Fund

"DO YOUR BIT"

John L. Alexander	\$10.00	C. Marvel Stringer	1.50
Dorothy L. Hubbard	5.00	P. E. Green	2.00
Mazie Caskie	5.00	William A. Brown	5.00
Margery Upsdell	1.00	Howard H. Camack	5.00
Helen Clephane	1.00	Esther Williams	1.00
Mildred Lowry	1.00	Ophelia M. Feamster	1.00
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*This unknown subscription was separated from the letter before proper credit was given. Will the donor please drop a note to the Editor, so that he may receive full recognition?

International Older Boy and Girl Camp-Conferences (International Sunday School Association)

John L. Alexander, Director—Herman Bowmar, Business Manager
Gentlemen—

Please find enclosed One Dollar (1-3 Registration Fee), twenty-five cents of which is to be used for one year's subscription to Conference Pointers, and register me for theCamp-Conference for the season of 1918,
(Boys or Girls)

subject to all the conditions of the prospectus.

Name.....
(Applicant's Personal Signature)

Age and Birthday..... Street and Number.....

City..... State or Province.....

Recommended and approved by.....
(Signature and Position of Guarantor)

Boys' Camp-Conference..... July 16-29

Girls' Camp-Conference, July 30-August 11